Amendments to the Drawings:

The attached sheet of drawings includes changes to Fig. 2. This sheet, which includes Fig. 2, replaces the original sheet including Fig. 2.

Attachment: Replacement Sheet (1)

                       Annotated Sheet Showing Changes (1)

<u>REMARKS/ARGUMENTS</u>

Claims 35-73 are pending of which claims 37-38, 43-46 and 69 have been withdrawn. Claims 35, 36, 49 and 51 have been amended.

Applicants' attorney, Saeid Mirsafian, conducted a telephone interview with the Examiner on January 28, 2009. Applicants' attorney and the Examiner discussed the objection to claim 36 and whether claim 36 would be allowable if amended to overcome the objection. The Examiner indicated that amending claim 36 to recite a "reflex angle" rather than an "obtuse angle" would overcome a rejection over Ellerich (U.S. 6,595,588). Applicants would like to thank the Examiner for her time and effort devoted to the interview.

Claim 36 has been objected to because of the term "obtuse angle." Applicants have amended claim 36 to include the limitations of claim 1. Applicants have also amended claim 36 to replace "obtuse angle" with "reflex angle." Applicants believe that claim 36 is now in condition for allowance.

Applicants have amended the claims and the specification to replace every instance of "obtuse angle" with "reflex angle." No new matter is added.

The drawings have been objected to for having the reference character 5 designate two different parts. Applicants have amended FIG. 2 to replace the reference number 5 for the torsional spring with reference number 7. Applicants have also amended the specification to reflect the noted change in the reference number for the torsional spring. No new matter is added.

Claims 35, 39-42, 47-50, 52, 59, 60, and 63-66 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) over Ellerich (U.S. 6,595,588). Applicants have amended claim 35 to recite "wherein, when the cushion carrier is folded over from the use position to the folded position in front of the backrest, the acute angle is transformed into a reflex angle by going beyond a neutral angular position of 180°." Applicants believe that Ellerich does not teach or suggest the noted limitations of claim 35.
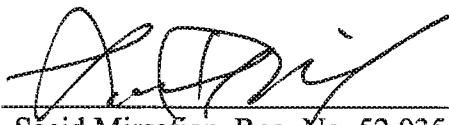
Referring to Figs. 11-14 of Ellerich, the levers 203 and 209 of the seat 201 form an acute angle when the seat cushion 222 is in its use position as shown in Figure 11. When the seat cushion 222 is folded over from its use position to a position in front of the backrest together with the cushion carrier 211, as shown in Fig. 14, the angle formed between the two levers 203 and 209 is below 180°. Ellerich does not teach or suggest that when the cushion carrier is folded over from the use position to the folded position in front of the backrest, the angle between the levers 203 and 209 is transformed into a reflex angle by going beyond a neutral angular position of 180°. Therefore, Applicants believe that claim 35, and dependent claims 39-42, 47-50, 52, 59, 60, and 63-66 are patentable over Ellerich.

Claims 61, 62, 67, 68, 71 and 72 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) over Ellerich. Because claim 35 is patentable over Ellerich, Applicants believe that claims 61, 62, 67, 68, 71 and 72 are also patentable over Ellerich.

Claims 51-58, 70 and 73 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) over Ellerich in view of Kanda (U.S. 6,048,030). Because claim 35 is patentable over Ellerich, Applicants believe that claims 51-58, 70 and 73 are also patentable over Ellerich.

Based on the foregoing, Applicants believe that claims 35, 36, 39-42, 47-50, 52, 59, 60, and 63-66 are now in condition for allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

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By _____

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